

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are now pending in the application. Prior to a substantive office action on the merits, please consider the following preliminary amendment. See e.g., MPEP 810, 714.01(e). Minor amendments have been made to Claims 1-4, 11, and 12 to address mere informalities. These amendments to the claims contained herein are intended to be of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. Further, new Claims 16 and 17 are added. Support for these new claims is found throughout the specification as originally filed and at Page 3 lines 3-4 and Page 12 lines 27-30, for example.

Newly added Claims 16 and 17 read upon elected Group I claims (pursuant to the restriction requirement) and further upon elected species set forth in the Response to Restriction and Election Requirement submitted on October 16, 2006, namely where X_1 is $C-R'_1$ and R'_1 is H; X_2 is $C-R'_2$ and R'_2 is H; X_3 is $C-R'_3$ and R'_3 is H; X_4 is $C-R'_4$ and R'_4 is H; X_5 is $C-R'_5$ and R'_5 is a halogen (e.g., F). Further, R_1 is selected to be OCH_3 , R_2 is CO_2R where R is H.

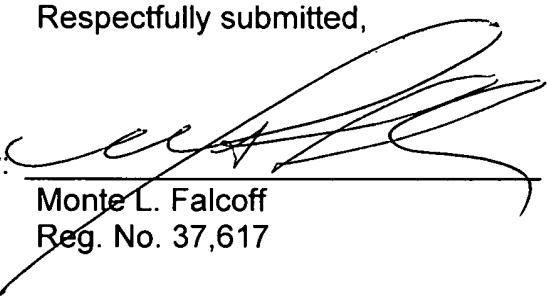
By way of clarification, the correct elected species for R_3 is alk- R°_3 , where alk is CH_2 , R°_3 is $CR'_b=CR'_c-R'_a$, where R'_b and R'_c are each H and R'_a is (2,5-difluorophenyl). Thus, in the elected species, R_3 is 3-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-propenyl. Further m is selected to be 2; n is selected to be 1; Z is selected to be CH_2 ; and Y is $CHOH$.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter these amendments. Applicants believe the present claims to be allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

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